

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231274

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF EAST BERLIN VOLKSAMMER DEPUTIES

UNDER NEW GDR ELECTION LAW

REF: USBERLIN 1386; BONN 12889; USBERLIN 1812

1. DEPT IS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH BRITISH, FRENCH
AND FRG DESIRE FOR LAYING DOWN A MARKER WITH THE SOVIETS
CONCERNING THE CHANGE IN THE GDR ELECTION LAW, AND AGREES
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IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE CHAIRMAN POLAD TO RAISE

THE SUBJECT WITH HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART AT A MEETING AT
WHICH OTHER MATTERS WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

2. WE BELIEVE THE SUBJECT SHOULD BE RAISED IN A LOW-KEY
MANNER SUFFICIENT TO GET THE ALLIES ON RECORD WHILE
REDUCING TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE LIKELIHOOD OF A
REJOINDER BY THE SOVIETS. TO THIS END WE BELIEVE IT
WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR THE CHAIRMAN POLAD, RATHER THAN
REQUESTING A SOVIET CLARIFICATION (BONN 12889), TO
MENTION THAT THE ALLIES HAVE BECOME AWARE THAT CERTAIN
CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE GDR VOLSKAMMER ELECTION
LAW, AND ASSUME THAT THEY DO NOT AFFECT
THE NATURE OF THE REPRESENTATION OF EAST BERLIN IN THE
VOLSKAMMER. SHOULD THE SOVIETS REP CHOOSE TO TAKE
ISSUE WITH THE STATEMENT, THEN THE CHAIRMAN POLAD COULD
REPLY AS SUGGESTED IN BONN 12889 (THIRD SUBPARA OF PARA 3
ROBINSON

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NNN

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